

Capri form file

SECRET

MGM-A-1442

*See MGK W-3243, Para 5
in Capri form
file*

15 August 1949

Chief, FEM

OOS, Karlsruhe

Operational
Termination of [] and CAPRIFORM

MGM-W-2485, MGM-A-1443

1. In discussions between [] and L. [] of MGM-W-2485, which had served to reorient our views on Project ASTOR, it was agreed that [] who even at this late date had not earned our complete confidence, and CAPRIFORM, whose operational approach to the USSR (MGM-A-1166, Para 1.b.) was based entirely upon a methodical preliminary study of targets, agent personnel, channels and operational barriers related to its areas, could play no useful role in the immediate selection, training and dispatching of agents which is the principal effort at MOB. CAPRIFORM, especially, whose initial period with us would have entailed a careful assessment of his character, motivation, and loyalties, and raised delicate problems of our control of his innumerable connections with emigrant groups and personalities, all of which would have required a good part of one case officer's time for at least several months, seemed to us a luxury beyond our present limited personnel means.

2. On 2 August [] therefore informed [] that the imminent transfer of the former required that his services be terminated at once; and asked him to notify CAPRIFORM that for the same reason our plan to employ him would be postponed for an indefinite period. [] was also told that CAPRIFORM is held in high regard by American authorities, and that his proposals may be again taken up if and when personnel become available to negotiate with him. While [] received this news with some sorrow, he accepted the given reason for his dismissal as true, and parted from [] with mutual good wishes for the future.

3. Since [] is basically interested in intelligence as a career, and has had connections with both the British and French IS, we expect his future activities not to be without interest to us. For this reason we shall maintain CIS surveillance of his means of communication for an indefinite time.

[]

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4. Through Rektor GERLACH of Munich University we had arranged that CAPRIFORM would come to Munich on invitation of the university and of the Bavarian Staatsbibliothek; and that he would be provided with offices and a title in the latter, pending his appointment in the university itself. GERLACH has also been informed of the postponement of our plans; but will proceed with this arrangement at any time when CAPRIFORM's recruitment is held desirable in the future.

5. As we shall not communicate further with CAPRIFORM, either directly or through [] we cannot report his reaction to this development, nor estimate what his reception of future overtures from us may be.

Distribution:

2 - FEM
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ACK

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